

FIRST DRAFT of Meeting Minutes (Subject to Approval at next Full Panel Meeting)

Vermont Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel (VT NDCAP)

Monday, January 10, 2022

Microsoft Teams Webcast

Physical Meeting Space at Windham Regional Commission Conference Room,

139 Main Street, Suite 505, Brattleboro, VT 05301

Meeting Minutes

VT NDCAP Members Present (via webcast):

- **Emily Davis**, *Citizen Appointee of former Senate President Pro Tempore Tim Ashe, Panel Chair*
- **June Tierney**, *Commissioner of Public Service, ex officio*
- **Lissa Weinmann** (*Brattleboro*), *Citizen Appointee of Senate President Pro Tempore Becca Balint, VT NDCAP Federal Nuclear Waste Policy Committee Chair*
- **Madeline Arms**, *Representative for the Town of Vernon*
- **VT State Representative Sara Coffey** (*Guilford*), *Citizen Appointee of former Speaker of the House Mitzi Johnson*
- **Trish Coppolino**, *Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Waste Management and Prevention Division Environmental Program Manager, Designee for the Secretary of Natural Resources*
- **Corey Daniels**, *Senior ISFSI Manager, NorthStar Vermont Yankee*
- **Dr. Bill Irwin**, *Radiological & Toxicological Sciences Program Chief, Designee for the Secretary of Human Services*
- **Brett Long**, *Deputy Commissioner of Economic Development, Designee for the Secretary of Commerce and Community Development*
- **David Pearson**, *Vice-President and Regional Manager, NorthStar Group Services*
- **Marvin Resnikoff**, *Citizen Appointee of former Speaker of the House Mitzi Johnson*

VT NDCAP Members Present at meeting site:

- **Chris Campamy**, *Executive Director of the Windham Regional Commission (WRC)*

The following NDCAP members were absent from the meeting:

- **Josh Unruh**, *Citizen Appointee of Governor Phil Scott, Panel Vice-Chair*
- **Bob Leach**, *Citizen Appointee of Governor Phil Scott*
- **VT State Senator Mark MacDonald**, *Member of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy*
- **VT State Representative Laura Sibilia**, *Member of the House Committee on Energy & Technology*

There are currently three vacancies on the Panel (two of which are optional Massachusetts and New Hampshire representatives).

1 With 1 Panelist at the meeting site, 11 Panelists connected via the Teams webcast (a quorum was
2 present (9 Panelists required). Approximately 8 members of the public (and 4 staff members associated
3 with the Panel) connected to the webcast. No members of the public were present at the meeting site.
4

5 The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM; a recording of the meeting webcast is available online at
6 <http://publicservice.vermont.gov/electric/ndcap> and at
7 [https://www.brattleborotv.org/vt-nuclear-decommissioning-citizens-advisory-panel/vt-ndcap-11022-](https://www.brattleborotv.org/vt-nuclear-decommissioning-citizens-advisory-panel/vt-ndcap-11022-mtg)
8 [mtg](https://www.brattleborotv.org/vt-nuclear-decommissioning-citizens-advisory-panel/vt-ndcap-11022-mtg).
9

10 **Welcome, Opening Remarks & Overview of Meeting Agenda:**

11 Panel Chair Emily Davis welcomed everyone for the meeting. She noted that this was a Special Meeting
12 for the purpose of approving the Panel's Annual Report to the Legislature, along with the Panel's budget
13 for 2022. Nonetheless, she asked whether the Panel had any requested changes for the meeting
14 agenda.
15

16 **Amendments to the Meeting Agenda:** None were suggested or made. A copy of the meeting
17 agenda is available at <https://publicservice.vermont.gov/content/meeting-agenda-1-10-2022>.
18

19 **Panel Roll Call / Confirmation of Quorum:** A roll call was taken to confirm that a quorum of Panel
20 members was present and that all could be heard via the webcast. During this roll call, Sara Coffey
21 noted that she would need to join another meeting at 6:30 PM.
22

23 **Review and Approval of Panel 2021 Annual Report to the Vermont Legislature:**

24 *The meeting minutes discussion begins at 0:05:00 on the meeting video.*
25

26 Panelists considered the current draft of the Annual Report Draft, which is available at:
27 <https://publicservice.vermont.gov/electric/ndcap> in the "Meeting of January 10, 2022" section.
28

29 A motion was made by Chris Campany and seconded by June Tierney to approve this version of the
30 Annual Report. Panel discussion on the Annual Report ensued. Chris Campany asked State Nuclear
31 Engineer Tony Leshinskie whether this latest draft (circulated to Panelists earlier in the afternoon) was
32 the final form of the Annual Report. In response, Tony Leshinskie indicated that this version
33 incorporated the several comments received from Panelists through Friday (January 7), along with End
34 of Year 2021 values received from NorthStar. (The first draft of the Annual Report was circulated for
35 Panelist review on December 17.) However, Lissa Weinmann had forwarded several comments last
36 evening (January 9) that the Panel should consider. These new comments are available at:
37 <https://publicservice.vermont.gov/electric/ndcap> in the "Meeting of January 10, 2022" section.
38

39 Several Panel members express concern that Lissa's several comments, if incorporated as is, would
40 introduce significant additional detail into the Annual Report that they had not had opportunity to
41 review. June Tierney noted that Tony had requested that Panel members send comments to him no
42 later than January 5. Consensus was reached that for many of Lissa's comments the additional details
43 could be provided to the Legislature upon request. Shorter versions of several of Lissa's comments

could be incorporated this evening. After additional discussion, the Panel agreed to incorporate the following changes:

- On Page 22 (beginning on Line 869), replace “the restart for developing a Consent-Based Siting process for identifying potential locations for a national spent nuclear fuel repository.” with “the temporary, consolidated storage of spent nuclear fuel using a Consent-Based approach.” (This wording change reflects Department of Energy’s own language in the subject Request for Information.) A similar wording change earlier in the Annual Report draft (later identified as on Page 13 at Line 479) was also made.
- On Page 19 (at Line 759), clarification on who provided the date noted in this line. Accordingly, “Based on data provided in response” was changed to “Based on data provided by NorthStar in response”.
- On Page 21 (at Line 807), concern was raised that “under existing authority” was not appropriate. Department of Energy action was being taken because there had been a Congressional budget allocation for interim (spent fuel) storage and Nuclear Waste Fund oversight activities. Lissa Weinmann’s requested change provided significant details on the Congressional allocation, but noted that the it could be rescinded as a result of court challenges or legal conflicts identified during a subsequent Congressional legal review. After additional Panel discussion, it was agreed that a parenthetical statement would be added, such that “under existing authority” would now read “under existing authority (that is currently being challenged in Federal Court),”.

The roll call vote (at 0:26:05 on the meeting video) to approve the 2021 Panel Annual Report, with these changes incorporated, was as follows:

Madeline Arms, Yes
Chris Campany, Yes
Sara Coffey, Yes
Corey Daniels, Yes
Trish Coppolino, Yes
Emily Davis, Yes
Bill Irwin, Yes
Brett Long, Yes
David Pearson, Yes
Marvin Resnikoff, Abstain
June Tierney, Yes
Lissa Weinmann, Abstain

The budget passed by an 10-0 vote with 2 abstentions.

Public Questions and Comments on 2021 Annual Report Draft

Public comments begin at 0:28:15 on the meeting video.

1 Anne Darling (Easthampton, MA): noted that she had comments on the Annual Report but felt that they
2 were no longer relevant since the Panel had just voted to approve the report without hearing public
3 comments.

4
5 After some discussion, Panel Chair Emily Davis and Commissioner June Tierney apologized for failing to
6 recognize that the agenda had called for public comments prior to voting on the Annual Report. The
7 Panel agreed that it could reconsider approval of the Annual Report based on Ms. Darling's and any
8 subsequent public comments.

9
10 Ms. Darling noted that her comments would likely not impact approval of the report. She commented
11 that the report is sometimes hard to follow since it contains many acronyms, particularly in the "Major
12 Milestones" section. In response, Tony Leshinskie noted that he defines acronyms the first time they
13 are used in the report's sections. For example, at the beginning of the Major Milestones section
14 (Section IV), "RB" is defined as Reactor Building; TB is defined as Turbine Building. Ms. Darling thanked
15 the Panel for the clarification.

16 17 **Approval of Panel Budget**

18 *This discussion begins at 0:33:57 on the meeting video.*

19
20 Panelists reviewed the latest draft of the Panel budget, which is available at:
21 <https://publicservice.vermont.gov/electric/ndcap> in the "Meeting of January 10, 2022" section.

22
23 A motion was made by Chris Campany and seconded by June Tierney to approve this latest version of
24 the budget. A brief Panel discussion of the budget ensued. Lissa Weinmann asked whether the \$10,000
25 allocated for updating the Panel website was based on work already contracted by the Public Service
26 Department. Commissioner June Tierney replied that no Request for Proposal for updating the website
27 had been issued. The number is a rough estimate. The Commissioner also noted that additional funding
28 to update the Panel website may be available. The Agency of Commerce and Community Development
29 is one potential funding source.

30
31 There were no public comments received on the Panel budget.

32
33 The roll call vote (at 0:39:05) on the meeting video) to approve the budget was as follows:

34
35 Madeline Arms, Yes
36 Chris Campany, Yes
37 Sara Coffey, not present for this vote
38 Corey Daniels, Abstain
39 Emily Davis, Yes
40 Bill Irwin, Yes
41 Brett Long, Yes
42 David Pearson, Abstain
43 Marvin Resnikoff, Yes
44 June Tierney, Yes
45

1 Lissa Weinmann, Yes

2 Trish Coppelino, Yes

3

4 The budget passed by a 9-0 vote with 2 abstentions.

5

6 **General Public Comments to the Panel**

7 No public comments were made at this time.

8

9 **Meeting Wrap-Up**

10 No additional Panel business was discussed. A motion to adjourn was made by Chris Campany and
11 seconded by June Tierney. The motion was approved by verbal yeas and nays, with no nays or
12 abstentions heard.

13

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15 **MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:41 PM.**